

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A digital content distributing system having a digital content
2 distributing apparatus for distributing a digital content and an
3 information processing apparatus for outputting a digital content
4 distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus, wherein:
5 said digital content distributing apparatus comprises:
6 a storage device storing a digital content;
7 an encryption processing device for performing an encryption
8 process on a part of the digital content by using encryption key
9 information shared with said information processing apparatus; and
10 a distributing device for distributing the partly encrypted digital
11 content to said information processing apparatus, and
12 said information processing apparatus comprises:
13 an input device for inputting a digital content distributed from
14 said digital content distributing apparatus;
15 a decryption processing device for performing a decryption
16 process on the encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the
17 encryption key information shared with said digital content distributing
18 apparatus; and
19 an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from
20 the encrypted part,
21 wherein said encryption processing device of said digital content

22 distributing apparatus performs an encryption process, with a formatting
23 unit of the digital content in plaintext taken as one unit, on a part of the
24 units as a subject of encryption processing.

1 2. A digital content distributing system having a digital content
2 distributing apparatus for distributing a digital content and an
3 information processing apparatus for outputting a digital content
4 distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus, wherein:

5 said digital content distributing apparatus comprises:

6 a storage device storing a digital content partly encrypted by using
7 encryption key information shared with said information processing
8 apparatus; and

9 a distributing device for distributing the stored digital content to
10 said information processing apparatus, and

11 said information processing apparatus comprises:

12 an input device for inputting a digital content distributed from
13 said digital content distributing apparatus;

14 a decryption processing device for performing a decryption
15 process on an encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the
16 encryption key information shared with said digital content distributing
17 apparatus; and

18 an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from
19 the encrypted part,

20 wherein the digital content stored by said storage device of said
21 digital content distributing apparatus is encrypted, with a formatting unit

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22 of the digital content in plaintext taken as one unit, on a part of the units
23 as a subject of encryption.

1 3. A method for distributing a digital content from a digital
2 content distributing apparatus to an information processing apparatus, in
3 a digital content distributing system having the digital content
4 distributing apparatus for distributing the digital content and the
5 information processing apparatus for outputting the digital content
6 distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus, said method
7 comprising the steps of:

8 distributing, by said digital content distributing apparatus, a
9 partly encrypted digital content which is encrypted by using encryption
10 key information shared with said information processing apparatus, to
11 said information processing apparatus; and

12 performing a decryption process using the encryption key
13 information on an encrypted part of the digital content distributed from
14 said digital content distributing apparatus by said information processing
15 device;

16 wherein the digital content distributed by said digital content
17 distributing apparatus is encrypted, with a formatting unit of the digital
18 content in plaintext taken as one unit, on a part of the units as a subject of
19 encryption.

1 4. A digital content distributing method according to claim 3,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data

3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data is encrypted, with a compression unit block comprising 8 pixels × 8
5 pixels as one unit, on a part of compression unit blocks.

1 5. A digital content distributing method according to claim 3,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data
3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data is encrypted, with a compression unit block comprising 8 pixels × 8
5 pixels taken as one unit, in a part of or the entire of compression unit
6 blocks, on a high frequency region or a low frequency region within each
7 block.

1 6. A digital content distributing method according to claim 3,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is MPEG data
3 formatted by a MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) scheme, the MPEG
4 data is encrypted, with one frame taken as one unit, on a part of or the
5 entire of one group selected from a group of frames compressed with
6 using correlation between the frames and a group of frames compressed
7 without using correlation between the frames.

1 7. A digital content distributing method according to claim 3,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is sound data
3 sampled based on frequency component and individually encoded, the
4 sound data is encrypted, with an encoded unit sample taken as one unit,
5 with respect to a high frequency component sample or low frequency

6 component sample.

1 8. A digital content distributing apparatus comprising:
2 a storage device storing a digital content;
3 an encryption processing device for performing an encryption
4 process on a part of the digital content by using encryption key
5 information shared with an information processing apparatus which is to
6 be a destination of distribution of the digital content; and
7 a distributing device for distributing the partly encrypted digital
8 content to said information processing apparatus;
9 wherein said encryption processing device performs an encryption
10 process, with a formatting unit of the digital content in plaintext taken as
11 one unit, on a part of the units as a subject of encryption processing.

1 9. A digital content distributing apparatus comprising:
2 a storage device storing a digital content partly encrypted by using
3 encryption key information shared with an information processing
4 apparatus which is to be a destination of distribution; and
5 a distributing device for distributing the stored digital content to
6 said information processing apparatus;
7 wherein the digital content stored by said storage device is
8 encrypted, with a formatting unit of the digital content in plaintext taken
9 as one unit, on a part of the units as a subject of encryption.

1 10. A digital content distributing apparatus according to claim 8,

2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data
3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data is encrypted, with a compression unit block comprising 8 pixels × 8
5 pixels taken as one unit, on a part of blocks.

1 11. A digital content distributing apparatus according to claim 9,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data
3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data is encrypted, with a compression unit block comprising 8 pixels × 8
5 pixels taken as one unit, on a part of blocks.

1 12. A digital content distributing method according to claim 8,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data
3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data upon encryption is encrypted, with a compression unit block taken as
5 one unit, in a part of or the entire of blocks, on a high frequency region or
6 low frequency region within each block.

1 13. A digital content distributing method according to claim 9,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is JPEG data
3 formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts Group) scheme, the JPEG
4 data upon encryption is encrypted, with a compression unit block taken as
5 one unit, in a part of or the entire of blocks, on a high frequency region or
6 low frequency region within each block.

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1 14. A digital content distributing method according to claim 8,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is MPEG data
3 formatted by a MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) scheme, the MPEG
4 data is encrypted, with one frame taken as one unit, on a part of or the
5 entire of one group selected from a group of frames compressed without
6 using correlation between the frames and a group of frames compressed
7 with using correlation between the frames.

1 15. A digital content distributing method according to claim 9,
2 wherein, in the case that the digital content in plaintext is MPEG data
3 formatted by a MPEG (Moving Picture Experts Group) scheme, the MPEG
4 data is encrypted, with one frame taken as one unit, on a part of or the
5 entire of one group selected from a group of frames compressed without
6 using correlation between the frames and a group of frames compressed
7 with using correlation between the frames.

1 16. An information processing apparatus for outputting a digital
2 content distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus
3 according to claim 8, said information processing apparatus comprising
4 an input device for inputting a digital content distributed from
5 said digital content distributing apparatus;
6 a decryption processing device for performing a decryption
7 process on an encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the
8 encryption key information shared with said digital content distributing
9 apparatus; and

10 an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from
11 the encrypted part.

1 17. An information processing apparatus for outputting a digital
2 content distributed from the digital content distributing apparatus
3 according to claim 9, said information processing apparatus comprising
4 an input device for inputting a digital content distributed from
5 said digital content distributing apparatus;

6 a decryption processing device for performing a decryption
7 process on an encrypted part of the inputted digital content by using the
8 encryption key information shared with said digital content distributing
9 apparatus; and

10 an output device for outputting the digital content decrypted from
11 the encrypted part.

1 18. A recording medium having recorded therein a digital content,
2 wherein the digital content is encrypted, with a formatting unit of the
3 digital content in plaintext taken as one unit, on a part of the units as a
4 subject of encryption.

1 19. A recording medium according to claim 18, having recorded
2 therein a digital content, wherein, in the case that the digital content in
3 plaintext is JPEG data formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts
4 Group) scheme, the JPEG data is encrypted, with a compression unit block
5 comprising 8 pixels × 8 pixels taken as one unit, on a part of blocks.

1 20. A recording medium according to claim 18, having recorded
2 therein a digital content, wherein, in the case that the digital content in
3 plaintext is JPEG data formatted by a JPEG (Joint Photographic Experts
4 Group) scheme, the JPEG data is encrypted, with a compression unit block
5 comprising 8 pixels \times 8 pixels taken as one unit, in a part of or the entire
6 of blocks, on a high frequency region or low frequency region within each
7 block.

1 21. A recording medium according to claim 18, having recorded
2 therein a digital content, wherein, in the case that the digital content in
3 plaintext is MPEG data formatted by a MPEG (Moving Picture Experts
4 Group) scheme, the MPEG data is encrypted, with one frame taken as one
5 unit, on a part of or the entire of one group selected from a group of
6 frames compressed without using correlation between the frames and a
7 group of frames compressed with using correlation between the frames.

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